

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN FEBRUARY 2003

Producers mined 1.34 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in February 2003 (table 1). Output was 13% less than that of January 2003 and 8% more than that of February 2002. Synthetic gypsum production was 641,000 metric tons (t) in February 2003 (table 1), which was 5% less than that of January 2003 and 61% more than that of February 2002. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. In January 2003, synthetic gypsum accounted for 678,000 t or about 25% of the 2.77 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 479,000 t (table 2), 3% less than that of January 2003, and 6% more than that of February 2002.

Output of calcined gypsum (table 1) was 1.67 Mt, 6% less than that of January 2003, and 5% more than that of February 2002. Sales of board products were about 2.5 billion square feet

(233 million square meters), 4% less than that of January 2003, and slightly more than that of February 2002.

Import and export data for February 2003 were not available at the time of publication. Imports of crude gypsum in January 2003 were 555,000 t (table 3), slightly more than that of December 2002, and 11% less than that of January 2002. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for January 2003 were 34,000 t, equivalent to 41 million square feet (3.8 million square meters). These imports were 17% more than that of December 2002, and 24% less than those of January 2002. Wallboard exports to 19 countries and territories in January 2003 were 2,900 t, equivalent to 3.5 million square feet (323,000 square meters). These exports were 4% more than those of December 2002, and 51 % less than those of January 2002.

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	2003			2002
	February	January	January-February	January-February
Crude:				
Mined 3/	1,340,000	1,550,000	2,890,000	2,550,000
Imported 4/	NA	555,000	NA	1,220,000
Exported 4/	NA	15,800	NA	45,000
Synthetic gypsum 5/	641,000	678,000	1,320,000	825,000
Total supply	NA	2,770,000	NA	4,550,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,670,000	1,770,000	3,440,000	3,250,000
Imported 6/	NA	280	NA	3,090
Exported 6/	NA	11,500	NA	45,000
Total supply	NA	1,760,000	NA	3,210,000

NA Not available.

1/ Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add totals shown.

3/ Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

4/ Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

5/ Reported supply only.

6/ Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000

TABLE 2
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE 1/ 2/

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2003			2002
	January	February	January-February	January-February
Uncalcined: 3/				
Portland cement	288,000	251,000	539,000	242,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	192,000	243,000	435,000	218,000
Total	479,000	494,000	974,000	459,000
Calcined:				
Board products 4/	2,090,000	2,180,000	4,280,000	2,100,000
Plaster	24,900	28,900	53,800	33,300
Total	2,120,000	2,210,000	4,330,000	2,130,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) 5/				
Regular board	1,540,000	1,590,000	3,130,000	1,490,000
Type X board	746,000	788,000	1,530,000	770,000
Other	223,000	245,000	468,000	266,000
Total supply	2,510,000	2,620,000	5,140,000	2,520,000

1/ Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

4/ Includes weight of paper and other materials.

5/ One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION 1/

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2003	2002	
	January	December	January
Canada	371,000	356,000	463,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	18
Mexico	100,000	191,000	161,000
Spain	84,000	--	2,000
Sweden	2	--	--
United Kingdom	--	195	21
Total	555,000	548,000	626,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption 3/	Production 4/	Imports 5/	Exports 5/
2002:				
January	1,910	1,300	626	25
February	1,810	1,240	595	22
March	2,090	1,410	742	64
April	2,180	1,450	749	20
May	1,890	1,150	752	16
June	1,670	1,070	671	62
July	1,730	1,020	727	14
August	2,120	1,550	634	60
September	2,190	1,570	631	14
October	2,020	1,470	569	18
November	1,970	1,250	730	13
December	1,740	1,210	548	15
January-December	23,300	15,700	7,970	343
2003:				
January	2,090	1,550	555	16
February	NA	1,340	NA	NA

NA Not available.

1/ Excludes synthetic gypsum.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

3/ Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

4/ Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvasses of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

5/ Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS 1/ 2/

(Thousand square feet) 3/

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2003:											
February:											
Lath	2	15	23	--	6	--	--	--	63	--	109
Veneer base	18,700	2,620	8,250	1,090	9,110	7	64	248	1,300	--	41,300
Sheathing	879	2,260	2,860	4,340	8,370	1,490	8,110	5,090	8,120	728	42,200
Regular gypsum board	37,100	128,000	222,000	111,000	421,000	101,000	193,000	149,000	163,000	20,800	1,540,000
Type X gypsum board	20,600	70,300	117,000	69,700	119,000	23,600	83,300	91,700	145,000	5,200	746,000
Predecorated board	276	399	874	500	976	316	634	315	638	31	4,960
5/16 Mobile home board	--	515	4,380	--	9,660	14,100	5,130	1,150	1,240	111	36,300
Water/moisture resistant board	3,940	16,100	14,700	6,290	20,400	3,400	9,850	8,200	12,600	2,480	97,900
Total	81,500	220,000	370,000	193,000	588,000	144,000	300,000	255,000	332,000	29,400	2,510,000
January-February:											
Lath	8	29	54	--	33	--	--	--	106	--	231
Veneer base	39,300	5,750	16,500	2,300	17,400	32	162	699	2,740	10	84,900
Sheathing	2,010	5,900	6,720	10,100	18,100	3,610	16,800	10,800	16,600	1,560	92,100
Regular gypsum board	77,900	268,000	452,000	230,000	844,000	203,000	387,000	290,000	339,000	41,600	3,130,000
Type X gypsum board	45,000	150,000	243,000	140,000	241,000	48,900	170,000	186,000	299,000	12,700	1,530,000
Predecorated board	712	1,050	1,860	1,120	2,260	745	1,610	811	1,340	256	11,800
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,830	10,800	16	20,700	29,300	12,500	2,690	2,360	111	80,300
Water/moisture resistant board	8,530	33,200	28,600	12,500	40,900	7,390	20,400	16,600	26,000	4,820	199,000
Total	173,000	466,000	760,000	396,000	1,180,000	293,000	608,000	507,000	687,000	61,100	5,140,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, OH, MI, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain, (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

3/ One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.